Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/814,054	LEVINE, ALFRED B.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Steven S. Paik	2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *the BPAI decision on May 30, 2006*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *51-68*.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *6/29/06;6/30/06* .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Alfred Levine on June 29, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-50.

51. (Previously Amended) A non-computing navigation system for guiding a driver operated vehicle to a selected destination communicating only an uncluttered two location representation of the changeable location of the vehicle referenced to the fixed location of the destination, and wherein the system does not provide any specific routing path between the two locations but instead enables the driver to select any routing path guided only by the two location representation, detecting means for continually detecting exteriorly of the vehicle the changeable location of the vehicle,

display means energized by said detecting means and responsive to a driver chosen destination to continually display only a pair of uncluttered markings corresponding to the changeable vehicle location and that of the fixed destination location, said display being free of any routing path interconnecting the two locations,

said markings being displayed within the vehicle in such manner that they can be continually observed by the driver without diverting attention from safe driving of the vehicle.

52. (Previously presented) In the system of claim 51, said driver operated vehicle having an observation window for observing roadway conditions, and said two location display being applied to said window to enable continuing viewing of said markings while observing the roadway conditions.

53. (Currently amended) In the system of claim 51, said system providing a second phase of operation when the vehicle nears the destination,

in said second phase of operation, digital sensor means for detecting digital codes on landmarks near the destination, which landmarks may include individual buildings to identify said landmarks, said digital sensor means energizing said display means to superimpose an identification of said landmarks on said markings when the vehicle nears said destination,

whereby the vehicle is continually guided ~~soley~~ solely by the two markings on the display supplemented by the landmark identification when the vehicle nears the destination.

54. (Previously presented) In the system of claim 51, said detecting means comprising a digital reader for detecting digitally coded markings located at geographically spaced locations exteriorly of the vehicle.

55. (Previously amended) A non-computing navigation system for a driver operated vehicle for continually guiding the vehicle to a selected destination without following any predetermined, calculated routing path,

said system providing an uncluttered map-free display of only two discrete markings, the first marking corresponding to the changeable geographic location of the vehicle regardless of

the route followed by the vehicle, and the second marking corresponding to a fixed geographic location of a selected destination,

said navigation system being free of computation of any predetermined route path for the vehicle to follow to said destination, and the two discrete markings providing the sole guidance by the navigation system until the vehicle nears said destination,

said display of the two markings being provided within the vehicle in such manner that they can be observed without diverting attention away from safe operation of the vehicle.

56. (Previously amended) In the system of claim 55, said vehicle having a conventional viewing window to permit viewing of the streets and roads ahead of the vehicle, and the display of the two discrete markings being applied to said window, thereby to minimize distraction in operation of the vehicle by the driver.

57. (Previously amended) In the system of claim 55, the display of the two markings on the screen being enlarged in scale as the vehicle approaches closer to the destination, thereby to more accurately guide the vehicle.

58 (Currently amended) A two phase navigation system for assistance in guiding a driver operated vehicle to a selected destination along any travel route selected by the driver of the vehicle leading toward said destination, and wherein during a first phase said system continually communicates an uncluttered representation of only two markings corresponding to the changeable location of the vehicle and the fixed location of the destination until the vehicle nears the destination, and in a second phase, said system communicates as a supplement to said markings, local landmark information that may include an identification of an individual

building, whereby during both of the two phases, the driver can choose any route to the destination that is available or convenient, said system comprising:

in said first phase, detection means for continually determining the actual geographic location of the vehicle referenced to the geographic location of the destination and communicating said two geographic locations by only two markings exclusive of any other communication,

two markings exclusive of any other communication, and

in ~~a~~ the second phase, when the vehicle has neared ~~te~~ the location of the destination, sensor means for detecting actual landmark information that may include an individual local building structure, as a supplement to the communication of the two markings,

whereby during both of the two phases, the driver can choose any available routing path toward the destination and continually receive advisory guidance from the system to assist in reaching said destination.

59. (Previously amended) In the system of claim 58, said detection means including a visual display screen within the vehicle and means for energizing said display to show only a pair of markings corresponding to the geographic location of the vehicle and the geographic location of the destination, thereby to continually advise the driver of the heading direction to reach the destination regardless of the routing path followed by the vehicle.

60. (Previously presented) In the system of claim 58, said detection means including an audible generator for communicating said markings and said landmark information.

61. (Previously presented) In the system of claim 58, said driver operated vehicle having an observation window for enabling the driver to view roadway condition, and display means for applying said two markings to said window.

62. (Currently amended) A two-phase, non-computing, advisory navigation system for guiding a driver operated vehicle to any selected destination, and enabling the driver ~~to~~ to select any travel routing to said destination that is available or convenient, said system comprising:

a direction communicating means within the vehicle for continually advising of the heading direction to be followed for any travel routing selected by the driver,

said direction communicating means comprising detector means for continually determining the actual geographic location of the vehicle referenced to the geographic location of the destination, and including a communicating means energized by said detector means to generate a map-free display within the vehicle displaying only two discrete markings corresponding to said location of the vehicle and the location of the destination,

thereby continually advising of the heading direction to be followed to said destination regardless of the travel route selected by the driver of the vehicle.

63. (Previously amended) In a navigation system for a driver operated vehicle means for enabling the driver of the vehicle to select any available routing to reach a selected destination while continuously providing guidance to the driver to assist in reaching said destination,

said means comprising a communicator means for conveying a first uncluttered, discrete communication corresponding to the changeable geographic location of the vehicle at all locations along any routing chosen by the driver, and said communicating means conveying a second uncluttered, discrete communication corresponding to a fixed geographic location of a

destination selected by the driver of the vehicle, said first and second communications being map-free and exclusive of other communications by the guidance system until nearing the location of the selected destination,

whereby said first and second discrete location communications continually inform the driver of the vehicle of the location of the vehicle referenced to that of the destination to guide the vehicle toward said destination regardless of the routing chosen by the driver of the vehicle.

64. (Currently amended) In the system of claim 63, said communicator means comprising a visual screen, and said first and second uncluttered communications comprising ~~firsr~~ first and second discrete visual markings on the screen exclusive of any other visual presentation on the screen.

65. (Previously amended) In the system of claim 63, said communicator means comprising an imaging device providing first and second discrete visual markings corresponding to said first and second uncluttered communications, said imaging device applying said visual markings to the driver without diverting attention away from proper driving of the vehicle,

said uncluttered discrete markings exclusive of other visual presentations from the imaging device requiring minimized attention of the driver of the vehicle.

66. (Previously amended) In the system of claim 63, the addition of sensor means for detecting digital markings on landmarks and structures in the vicinity of the selected destination, which landmarks and structures may include specific buildings and building addresses, said sensor means energizing said communicator means to supplement said uncluttered communications with the identity of said landmarks and structures when the vehicle is in the vicinity of said destination.

67. (Currently presented) A non-computerized navigation system for a driver operated vehicle wherein the system communicates to the driver an uncluttered, map-free, representation limited only to the comparative geographic location of the vehicle referenced to the geographic location of a selected destination, and wherein the system does not compute any selected routing path for the vehicle to follow to reach said destination, comprising:

detecting means for receiving actual external information that continually identifies the changeable actual location of the vehicle,

communicating means energized by said detecting means and responsive to the inputting of said selected destination for communicating a map-free, uncluttered representation consisting ~~soley~~ solely of the geographic location of the vehicle and the geographic location of the destination,

said communicating means providing only two discrete, displaced marking locations until the vehicle nears the location of the destination.

68. (Currently amended) A non-computing, two phase navigation system for driver operated vehicles for enabling the continual guiding of the vehicle to a selected destination by heading direction alone during a first phase without reference to any selected routing path, and in a second phase occurring when the vehicle has arrived in the near vicinity of said destination, guiding the vehicle to the destination along any routing selected by the driver, by communicating localized information specific to the landmarks of the areas about the destination comprising:

in the first phase, communicating means for continually conveying a map-free uncluttered representation corresponding only to the relative geographic location of the vehicle referenced to the selected destination, thereby enabling the vehicle to proceed toward the

destination along any routing chosen by the driver by heading direction alone without following any predefined routing of streets, roads, or road intersections, and

in a the second phase occurring when the vehicle has neared the vicinity of the destination, communicating local landmark information near the destination to enable the vehicle to be guided directly to the destination by the local landmark information along any desired routing.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 51-68 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of cited prior art discloses, teaches, or fairly suggests, a non-computing navigation system comprising, among other things, displaying means displaying only two markings corresponding to the changeable location of the vehicle and the selected destination without showing any routing path interconnecting the two markings, as required by claims 51, 55, 58, 62, 63, 67, and 68. After further search and thorough examination of the present application and in view of the Applicant's arguments, amendments, and decision from the BPAI, claims 51-68 are found to be in condition for allowance over the prior art made of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 571-272-2404. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 5:30a-2:00p (Maxi-Flex*).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Steven S. Paik
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2876

ssp